

REMARKS

Claims 33-36 were rejected under 35 USC 112 (first paragraph) as being based upon a non-enabling disclosure.

Claims 33-36 have been cancelled.

Claims 14, 17, 18 and 33-36 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by either of the patents to Shaw-Klein et al or Missel et al.

Claims 14, 17, 33, 34 and 36 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by the patent to Romano et al.

By this amendment claims 33-36 have been cancelled and claim 14 has been amended.

Claim 14 is the only independent claim remaining in this application and its subject matter will be briefly reviewed. As required by the claim there are two images to be formed. An information receiving layer containing information is formed over a barrier layer. As amended a clear hydrophobic layer is formed over the information receiving layer. (See Figs 2, 4 and 7, Page 4, lines 25-29, page 5, line 24-page 6, line 4, page 6, line 13-line 28, page 6, line 29-page 7, line 6). On top of the clear hydrophobic layer a clear hydrophilic layer is formed for receiving and holding a water-based colorant image transferred by a stamp. The clear hydrophobic layer prevents the water-based colorant from transferring into the information receiving layer.

None of the references cited by the Examiner can have two separately formed images in two different layers; namely, the information receiving layer and the clear hydrophilic layer.

Turning first to Shaw-Klein et al and in particular to col. 2, lines 61-64 and col. 3, lines 3-6, a solvent absorbing layer is applied to the support or base. It can have hydrophilic material for aiding in transfer of ink to the absorbing support. Clearly Shaw-Klein et al do not form a second image and do not have layers which correspond to the hydrophobic layer formed over the information receiving layer which interacts with the hydrophilic layer for receiving water-based colorant. They do have a hydrophilic layer but it is in a different position than the structure set forth in claim 14 and serves a completely different purpose.

Missel et al, col. 2, lines 16, 34-37 and 42-44 relates to ink jet printing wherein only a single inkjet image is formed, which is absorbed by the base. In a similar fashion to Shaw-Klein et al the surface of the base or support can be formed with a hydrophilic layer to aid in transfer of ink to the base or support. There is no second image and here again the purpose and position of the Missel et al hydrophilic layer is different than the present invention and the same as Shaw-Klein et al.

Romano et al, col. 4, lines 34 and 53-57, this patent is very similar to Missel et al and uses a hydrophilic layer to aid in transfer of ink to the base or substrate. It does not have the same structure as amended claim 1 and only forms a single image.

There is no motivation in any of the references to provide a structure which can receive two separate images in two different layers. None of the cited references taken singly or in combination, disclose, suggest or provide any motivation for forming the structure of claim 14 which can have two separately formed images. Accordingly it is believed that claim 14 is novel and unobvious and should be allowed by the Examiner. The remaining claims which depend upon claim 14 should be allowed along with it.

It is believed that these changes now make the claims clear and definite and, if there are any problems with these changes, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed none of the references, taken singly or in combination, disclose the claimed invention. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, the notice of which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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